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Press Release

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Pennsylvania Egg Production Down 1 Percent In October

HARRISBURG --- Pennsylvania egg production totaled 557 million during October, down 1 percent from the October 2001 production, according to the Pennsylvania Agricultural Statistics Service. There was an average of 23.7 million layers in the Commonwealth during the month, down 2 percent from October 2001. Average production per 100 layers was 2,348 eggs, compared with 2,337 eggs during the previous October.

Egg-type chicks hatched totaled 3.57 million in October, 32 percent less than the 5.26 million one year ago. Cumulative egg-type hatch for 2002 is 43.4 million, down 21 percent from the 54.7 million hatched during the same period last year. There were 12.5 million broiler-type chicks hatched last month, down 6 percent from October 2001. Cumulative broiler-type hatch for 2002, at 129.8 million chicks, unchanged from the cumulative hatched January through October 2001.

United States - Egg production totaled 7.41 billion during October 2002, up 1 percent from last year. The total number of layers during the month averaged 338.0 million, up slightly from the total average number of layers during October 2001. October egg production per 100 layers was 2,192 eggs, up 1 percent from the 2,180 eggs in 2001.

October egg-type chicks hatched totaled 32.0 million, down 11 percent from last year. Broiler-type hatch, at 720 million chicks, was down 4 percent from October 2001. Turkey eggs in incubators on November 1, 2001, totaled 29.9 million, down 2 percent from November 1 a year ago. A total of 23.8 million turkey poults were placed during October, down 1 percent from the number placed during the same month a year ago.